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TO RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY  
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INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY 0637  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 0787  
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY 0620  
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY 0347  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 04 LONDON 000019

NOFORN SIPDIS

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TAGS: [ECON](#) [KTFN](#) [PTER](#) [UK](#)

SUBJECT: (S/NF) UK: NO ENGAGEMENT WITH ANY HAMAS ARM; DIFFICULT INTERPAL DYNAMICS

Classified By: Richard Albright, Economic Minister-Counselor, for reasons 1.4 b&d

1.(S/NF) Summary: The UK fully agrees with and adheres to the EU policy of no contact with any Hamas element. The recent UK terrorism finance r  
No Relations with Hamas -----

2.(S/NF) HMG does not engage with any Hamas element - neither the military nor political wings. This stands in contrast to its split policy vis

3.(S/NF) A confusing factor, however, relates to the UK designation of the Izz al-din al Qassam brigades (Hamas' "military wing") in November 2

4.(S/NF) On December 15, 2009, after an internal review of all its previous domestic designations, the UK re-designated Izz al-din under Terror  
Interpal -----

5.(S/NF) We have continued to press the British government to take a more aggressive stance towards Interpal (officially, the Palestinian Relie

6.(S/NF) Interpal is politically connected and regularly presses elected leaders on its behalf. There is some political sympathy and public sup

7.(S/NF) Recently, we heard from HM Treasury staff that their Ministers (political-level in the government) have been pressing for more informa

8.(S/NF) HMT officials told us it was especially important to show the direct link between Interpal and Hamas since the UK Charity Commission -

9.(S/NF) HMT officials told us privately they thought the Charity Commission had made a mistake in not requiring Interpal to force Mustafa to s

10.(S/NF) According to British Officials from HMT, the National Terrorist Finance Intelligence Unit and the Charity Commission, Interpal has be  
Israeli Intentions? -----

11.(S/NF) The Israeli Embassy has been lobbying Conservative MPs, journalists, civic groups, Jewish groups, and HMG for an Interpal designatio

Next Steps -----

12.(S/NF) Given the pressure on the UK government, from Interpal, other charities, and its supporters, without additional U.S. responses to UK

Will the Tories See Things Differently? -----

13.(S/NF) Conservative thinking on counter terrorism and terrorist financing is in the very broad-stroke stage at this point. In general, they

Comment -----

14.(S/NF) It would be prudent not to press this issue at the political level, given the upcoming elections. However, Washington-based and Embas  
LeBaron